

July 9, 1999

0778 '99 JUL 16 A11:10

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
Food and Drug Administration
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville, MD 20852

Re: Docket #98-1038 - "Irradiation in the production, processing and handling of food."

Dear Sir/Madam:

As a consumer, parent and health care professional, it is vitally important that you DO NOT REMOVE LABELING or reduce the size of labeling of irradiated foods.

I demand that you provide to consumers the following:

1. PROMINENT LABELING.
2. THE USE OF THE TERMS "IRRADIATION" OR "IRRADIATED"
3. IDENTIFICATION OF THE IRRADIATED COMPONENTS.
4. THE USE OF THE RADURA SYMBOL.

Proposed alternative terms such as "cold pasteurization" and "electronic pasturization" are MISLEADING and should not be used.

Consumers have a right to know if the food they are consuming is irradiated and to make intelligent choices accordingly.

Irridiation is a process that can change the texture, taste and storage characteristics and destroys vitamins and the nutrients of a food and should therefore be disclosed to avoid misleading the consumer.

Very Truly Yours,

Rose Richard
5966 Oak Ave.
Audubon, IN 46219

cc: US Representative Dan Burton, IND 6th
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Washington DC 20515

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